



**Sustainable Arlington
An Environment Committee of Envision Arlington**

Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Time: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting by Zoom. Registration required; link: <https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUpd-6urjsqH9H5teaWs07aJs-kcEaqvzjC>

Notice to the Public on meeting privacy In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by telephone dial-in information provided above.

If you have not used Zoom before, please join the meeting 5 to 10 minutes early.

At the start of the meeting, we will:

1. Confirm first and last name of everyone on the call for the minutes and make sure that everyone can hear each other
2. Read Preamble to Remote Meetings
3. Introduce all members, staff, and persons on the agenda
4. Review “ground rules” for online meetings
5. Meeting materials will be available online through Novus or Town website for the public

Agenda for February 24, 2021

1. Introductions
2. Update from Planning Dept.
3. Approve January minutes, read here: [SusArl. 1.27.2021.DRAFT Minutes](#)
4. Zero Waste Arlington: No Plastic Please campaign
5. Proposed warrant article discussion: Pre-construction Rodent Survey and Pest Management, by Elaine Crowder
6. State climate and energy legislation update
 - a. Governor Baker’s response to legislation
7. Report out: MCAN chapter meeting update: better buildings campaign, Clean energy plan 2030, legislative update
8. Environmental Justice at a local level- where do we go from here?
9. Pollinator update
 - a. Mystic Charles Pollinator Pathways
 - b. Pesticide and Pollinator legislation
 - c. Green team pollinator gardens
 - d. Vote: Request to give a \$200 from Sustainable Arlington funds (held by MCAN) to [Mass Pollinator Network, NOFA/Mass](#). This statewide program, now under

development, will include a half-time coordinator position, with salary to be covered through fundraising. One third of the funds have been raised.

10. Alewife study group Mugar wetlands: Update
11. Net Zero Pathways and Opportunities/Biden-Harris Administration: Prospects for Community Climate Action: Update
12. Brainstorming an on-line EcoFest: theme, session topics, presenters, event planners, date(s)
13. New business
14. Announcements
 - a. Rep. Sean Garballey has been named Chairperson for the [House Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change](#)
 - b. Please take the Town Survey. Deadline, March 1: www.arlingtonma.gov/survey
 - a. The Mass Power Forward Coalition, Virtual Lobby Day, Thurs., March 4, 3-6 pm. Advocating for Environmental Justice legislative priorities, 100% Renewable Energy, and the Mass Renews Build Jobs and Justice Act. [Sign up by March 1, 12 pm.](#)
 - b. Sustainable Middlesex, Carbon Countdown 2021, Sat., March 13, 9:30-11:30 am. [Register in advance.](#)
 - c. Zero Carbon Home webinar with David Green, April 8, 7:30-9 pm.
 - d. Fill out the [Mystic Charles Pollinator Pathways Map Home Garden Survey](#). Help record pollinator gardens in our region to fill in the gaps on the pollinator pathways. Questions: mysticcharles.pollinatorpaths@gmail.com.
 - e. Adjourn

Resources:

- Climate XChange, State Climate Policy Network, recent webinar recordings, <https://climate-xchange.org/scpn-deep-dives/>
 - The Road to 100% Renewable Energy, Feb. 16
 - The Power of Labor in a Green Economy, Jan. 12

Visit Sustainable Arlington:

<http://www.sustainablearlington.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=sustainable%20arlington%20group>

Facebook



**Sustainable Arlington
An Environment Committee of Envision Arlington
DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2021

Time: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting by Zoom

Registration required; link: <https://harvard.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJckceyhrzssHtSE-ABJBNGv3wbPg8lO3Jqc>

Notice to the Public on meeting privacy In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by telephone dial-in information provided above.

If you have not used Zoom before, please join the meeting 5 to 10 minutes early. At the start of the meeting, we will:

1. Confirm first and last name of everyone on the call for the minutes and make sure that everyone can hear each other
2. Read Preamble to Remote Meetings
3. Introduce all members, staff, and persons on the agenda
4. Review "ground rules" for online meetings
5. Meeting materials will be available online through Novus or Town website for the public

Minutes for January 27, 2021

In attendance: Amos Meeks, Brucie Moulton, Tom Ehbrecht, John Moore, Scott Samenfeld, Kelly Lynema, Parke Wilde, Carl Wagner, Sarah Hill, Roger Rosen, David White, Lenard Diggins, Gina Sonder. Rebecca Pearl-Martinez, Gail McCormick, Ken Garden

1. Introductions
2. Update from Planning Dept.
 - a. Sustainable transportation plan wrapping up
 - b. Net zero plan in from of clean energy future and wrapping up
 - c. Will be in front of select board end of this month.
3. Approve December minutes, read here: [SusArl.12.16.2020.Minutes.docx](#)
 - a. Approved
4. New Sustainable Arlington co-chair nomination, Tom Ehbrecht, read here: [Tom Ehbrecht, co-chair statement of interest](#)
 - a. Vote taken and nomination accepted and co-chair elected. 10 votes for, none against.

5. Tech 101: Solar-Assisted Hot Water for Home Use, John Moore, Architect, New England Solar Hot Water (an Arlington-Winchester HeatSmart 2020 participant)
6. This presentation, based on the one John Moore gave to the Mass Save Fall Conference, covered the well-established Solar Hot Water and Heat Pump Water Heater technologies, ending with Solar Assisted Heat Pumps.. Solar Assisted Heat Pumps are a newer technology for the U.S. but well established in Europe. All three technologies provide ways to reduce or eliminate fossil fuel use for heating water.
7. [Proposed EV charging station warrant, Arlington 2021 Town Meeting](#), Silvia Dominquez,
 - a. Discussion included. whether or not most people charge at home; apartment dwellers often do not have a way to charge; and costs and benefits of additional public charging stations. Kelly Lynema noted that Arlington's sustainable transportation plan (Connect Arlington) discusses EV charging stations, including considerations around ADA parking spaces, requirement to be located on public land, and impact on local businesses. Action: discussion to be continued at a future date.
8. State climate and energy legislation update
 - a. Help pass the climate bill, S.9.An Act creating a next-generation roadmap for Massachusetts climate policy. Contact Senator Cindy Friedman, and Representatives Sean Garballey and Dave Rogers.
9. Vote on support for Emergency Arlington's proposed warrant article regarding a Declaration of Climate Emergency for Arlington, MA. Warrant article here: [A Declaration of Climate Emergency for Arlington \(2021\)](#) Background here: [Emergency Arlington](#)
 - a. Suggestion from Len Diggins to bring this to precinct meetings in the Spring. People often wait until after the election- probably first, second weekend of March.
 - b. Vote taken and motion carried. 10 votes for, none against, with a note from David White that there should be more outreach to town meeting members.
10. New business
 - a. Effort on Building healthy ecosystems- using school zones. Understand pillars of healthy ecosystems, stewardship needs and advocacy.
 - b. Request from Arlington Public Schools Sustainability Coordinator Rachel Oliveri for volunteers to collect plastic bags from the recycling containers and bring them to local businesses who are collecting them.
 - c. Arlington Public School GreenTeam pollinator project, with school gardens, no mow strips,being developed by Stratton Elementary School parent Tina Halfpenny and Rachel Oliveri. Mystic-Charles Pollinator Pathways Group is also interested. Will bring a proposal to the February meeting for a Sustainable Arlington vote of support.
 - d. Request to Harvard University Alumni for the upcoming election of the Harvard Board of Overseers to vote for "Harvard Forward" candidates. These candidates support divesting the Harvard endowment from fossil fuels.
11. Announcements
 - a. Fill out the [Mystic Charles Pollinator Pathways Map Home Garden Survey](#) to record pollinator gardens in our area and identify gaps to fill in. Questions: mysticcharles.pollinatorpaths@gmail.com.
 - b. Update on **26-acre Cambridge construction project across from Alewife, Mugar Wetlands**: Alewife Study Group, Sun., Jan. 31, 4:30 - 6 pm, register: <http://alewife.org/event/asg-community-meeting/>

- c. **Net Zero Pathways and Opportunities** under the Biden-Harris Administration: Prospects for Community Climate Action, Feb. 16, 6-7:10 pm, [Webinar Registration](#)
 - d. Save the Date: Sustainable Middlesex, **Carbon Countdown 2021**, Sat., March 13, 9:30-11:30 am, Registration is free but required: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/carbon-countdown-2021-tickets-138101654767>
12. Adjourn

New resources:

- [Climate Emergency: Feedback Loops](#), The Earth is warming the Earth. In this series of five short films, learn why natural warming loops have scientists alarmed—and why we have less time than we think. Featuring the Dalai Lama, Greta Thunberg, and climate scientists you know.
- **A new report from a CSSN [Climate Social Science Network] research team analyzing climate and energy lobbying records details the actors working against climate action in Massachusetts.** The study reveals four lobbying coalitions against climate action, and that utilities are uniquely powerful on Beacon Hill. The study provides insights for state level climate action and a new set of tools to research them. ([access here](#)) ([press release](#))

Visit Sustainable Arlington:

<http://www.sustainablearlington.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=sustainable%20arlington%20group>